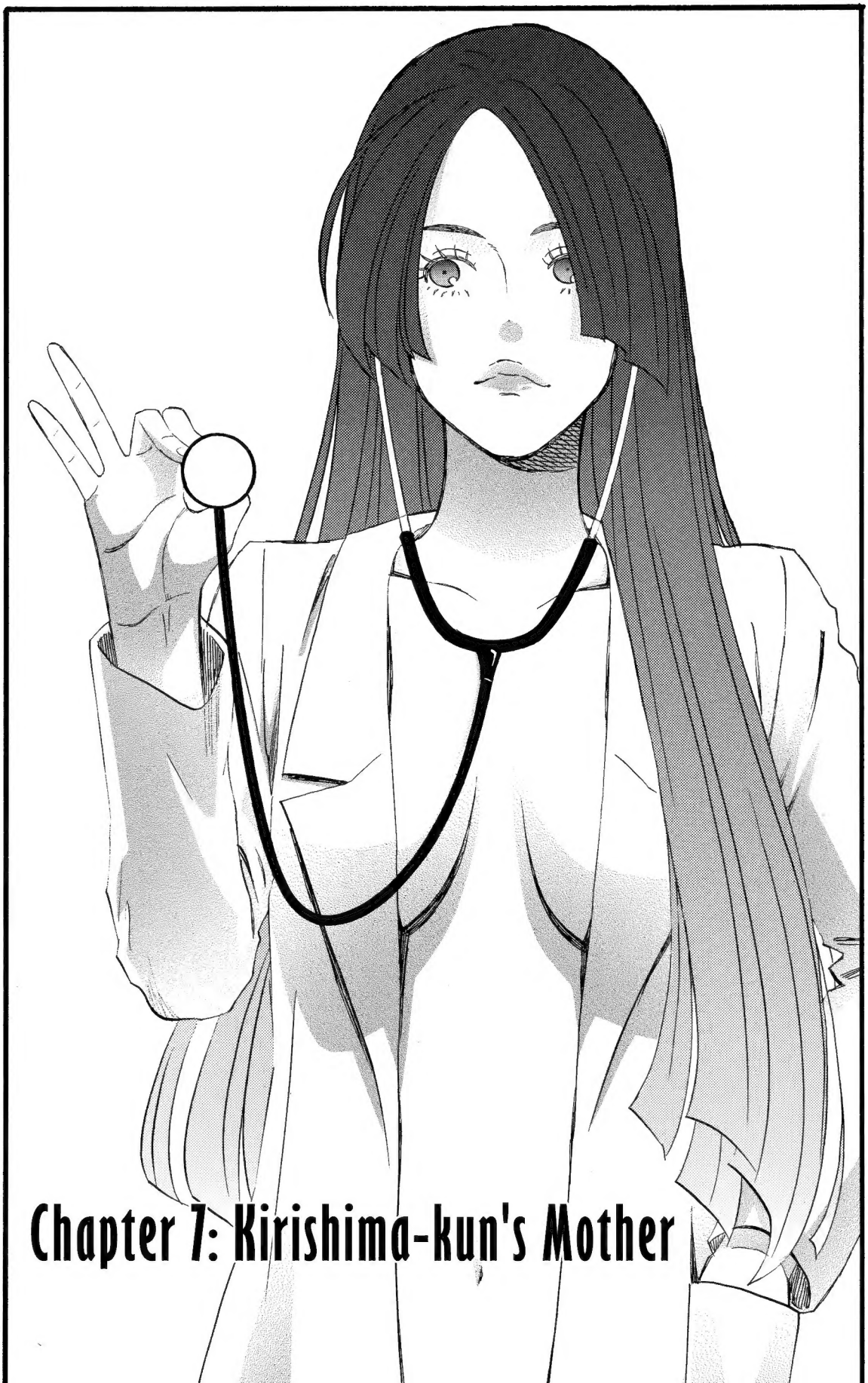
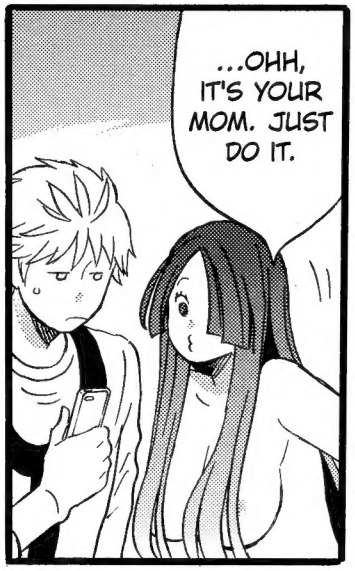
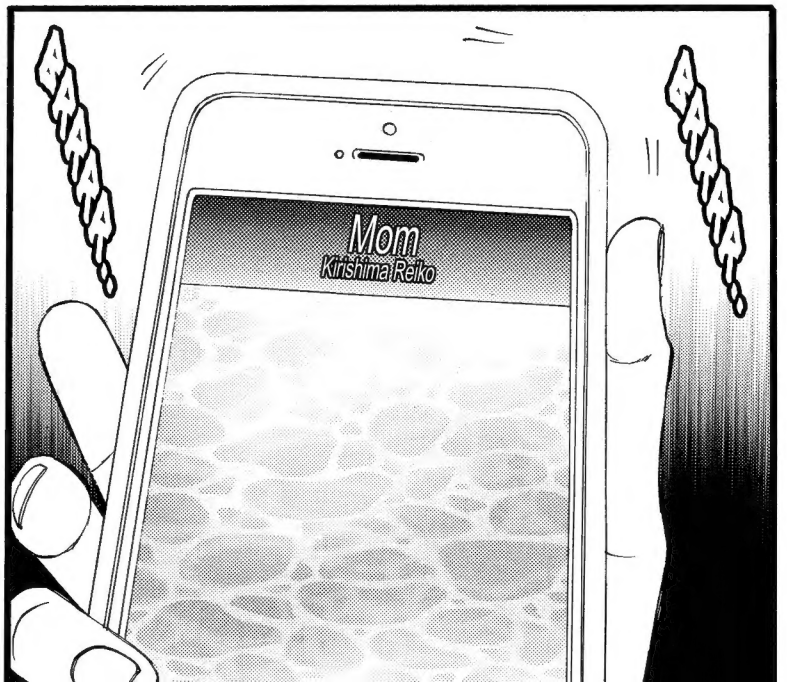


Chapter 7: Kirishima-kun's Mother

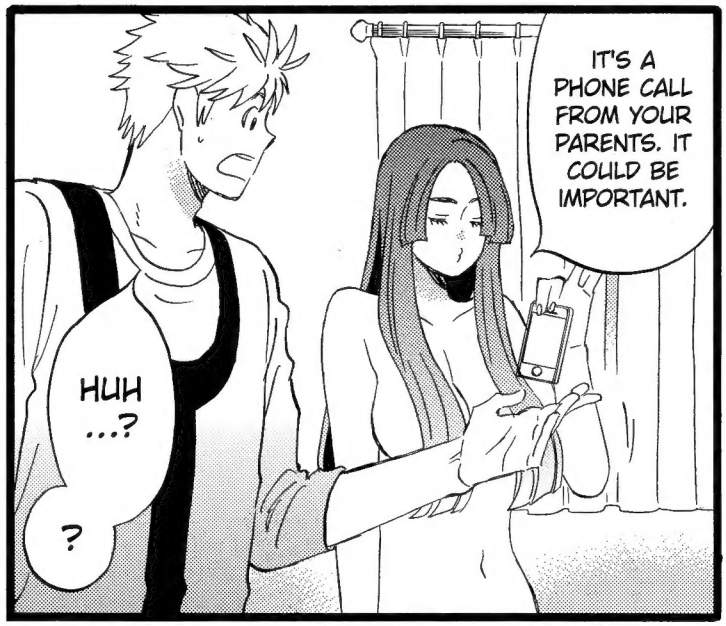
...UGH!

WHAT'S WRONG? NOT PICKING IT UP?
BRRRR!.. BRRRR!..


...OHH, IT'S YOUR MOM. JUST DO IT.

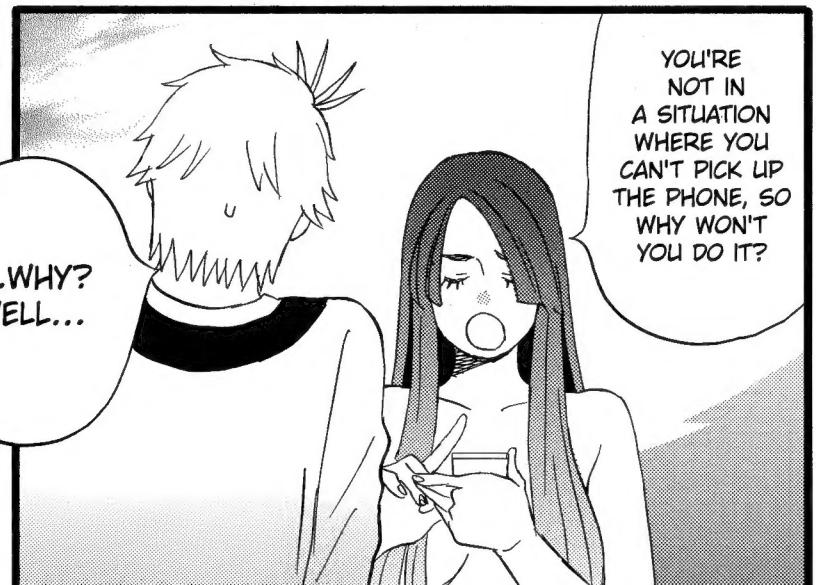

Mom
Kirishima Reiko

...
I'LL JUST CALL HER BACK LATER.
A ha ha...
NO, NO. IT'S FINE IF I DON'T...


HUH ...?
?
IT'S A PHONE CALL FROM YOUR PARENTS. IT COULD BE IMPORTANT.

SWP

PRESS
Accept


...WHY? WELL...
YOU'RE NOT IN A SITUATION WHERE YOU CAN'T PICK UP THE PHONE, SO WHY WON'T YOU DO IT?

SHIRO-KUN? WHERE ARE YOU RIGHT NOW?!

MY MOM'S A PAIN IN THE BUTT. THAT'S WHY.

WHISPER

...IS SPEAKER MODE ON BY DEFAULT?

WHISPER

NO, IT'S OFF.

That's the default mode.

YOUR MOM'S SERIOUSLY LOUD.

It surprised me!

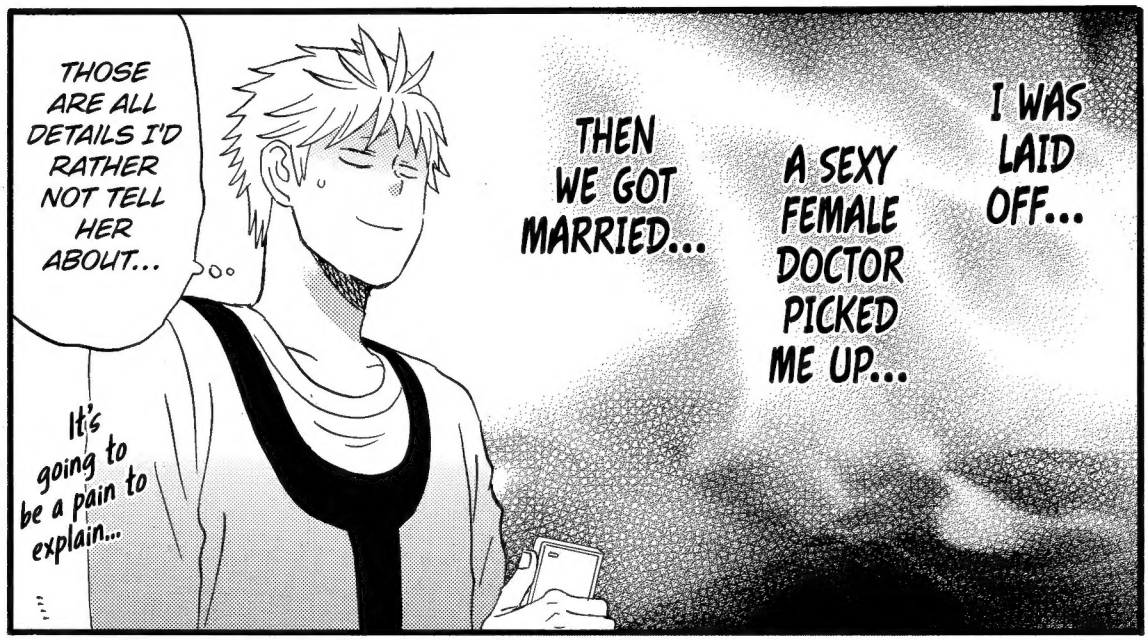
...
"WHERE" AM I?

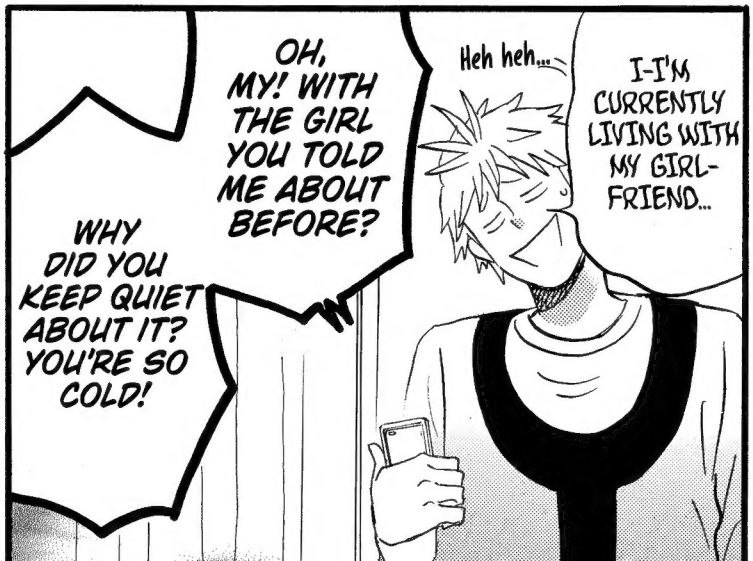
UHH...

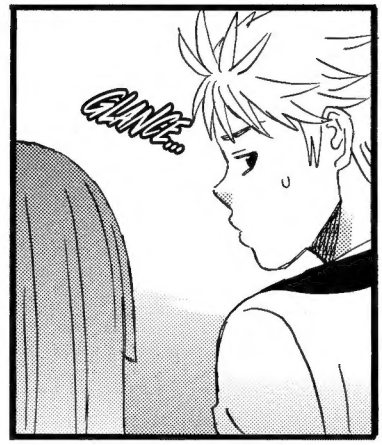
I'M IN MY ROOM.

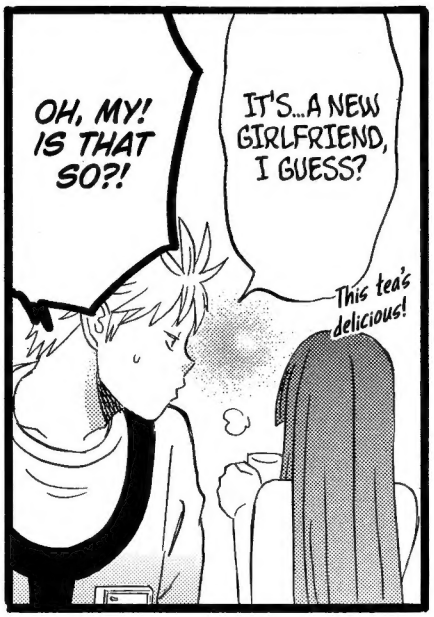
AND WHERE EXACTLY IS YOUR ROOM?!

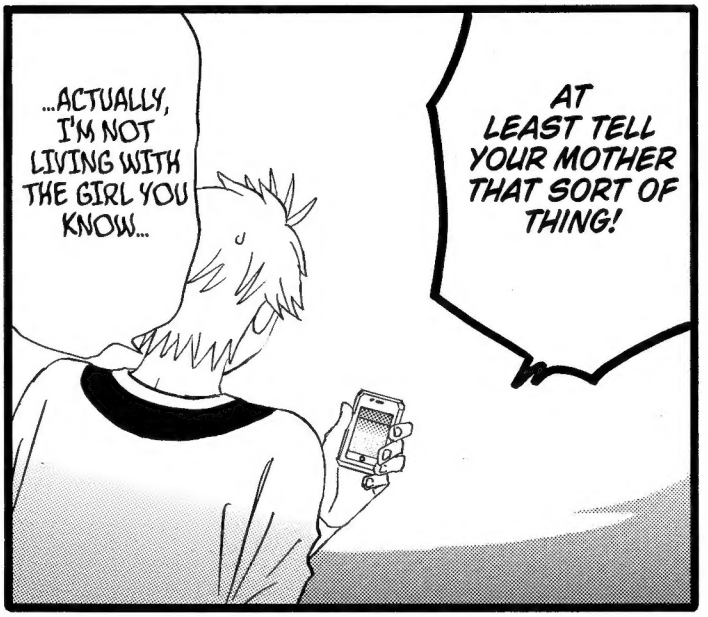
HUH...? UHHH, WELL...
WHY DID YOU SUDDENLY LEAVE?!
Geez! Even the font size in your speech bubbles is huge...
AND WHEN I ASKED YOUR LANDLORD, HE TOLD ME YOU HAD MOVED OUT!
THE STUFF I SENT TO YOUR HOUSE WAS RETURNED!

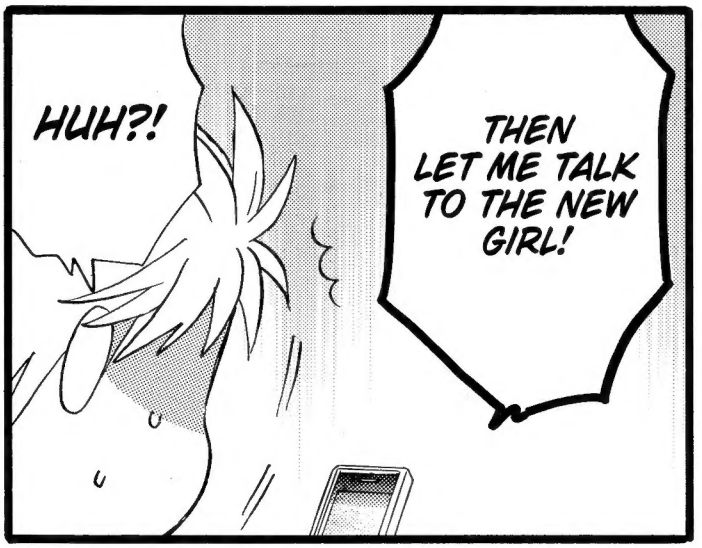

THOSE ARE ALL DETAILS I'D RATHER NOT TELL HER ABOUT...
It's going to be a pain to explain...
THEN WE GOT MARRIED...
A SEXY FEMALE DOCTOR PICKED ME UP...
I WAS LAID OFF...


WHY DID YOU KEEP QUIET ABOUT IT? YOU'RE SO COLD!
OH, MY! WITH THE GIRL YOU TOLD ME ABOUT BEFORE?
Heh heh...
I-I'M CURRENTLY LIVING WITH MY GIRL-FRIEND...


GUNK...


OH, MY! IS THAT SO?!
IT'S...A NEW GIRLFRIEND, I GUESS?
This tea's delicious!

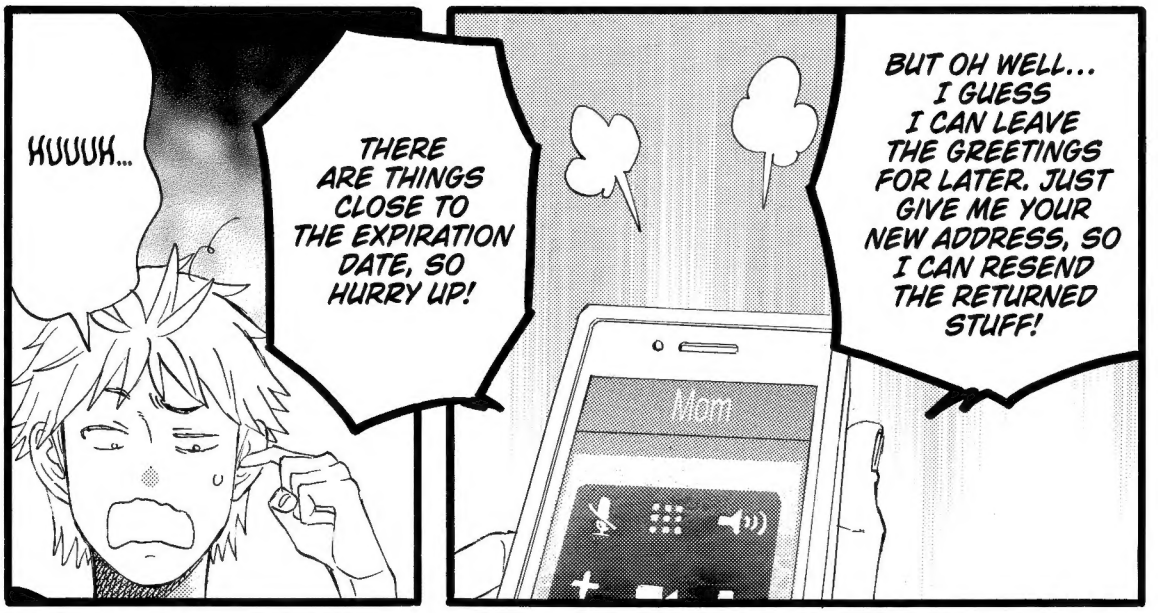

...ACTUALLY, I'M NOT LIVING WITH THE GIRL YOU KNOW...
AT LEAST TELL YOUR MOTHER THAT SORT OF THING!

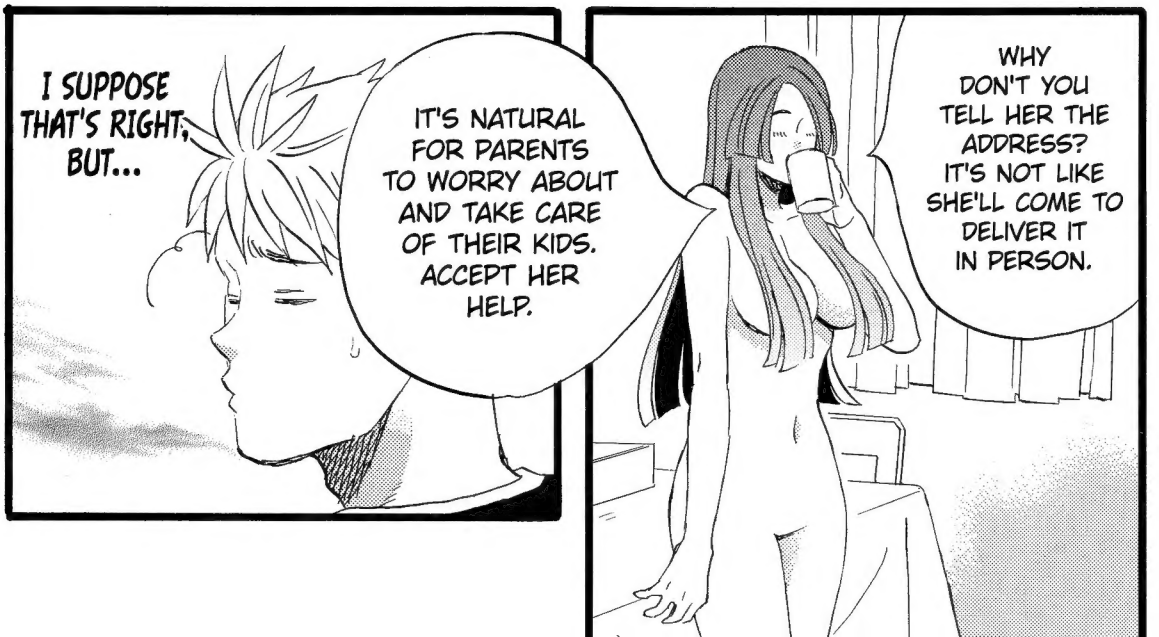

HUH?!
THEN LET ME TALK TO THE NEW GIRL!

HA HA HA...
Huh? No way, dude...
I WAS CONVINCED YOU WERE GOING TO MARRY THE OTHER ONE...
You're being laid off? That totally sucks.

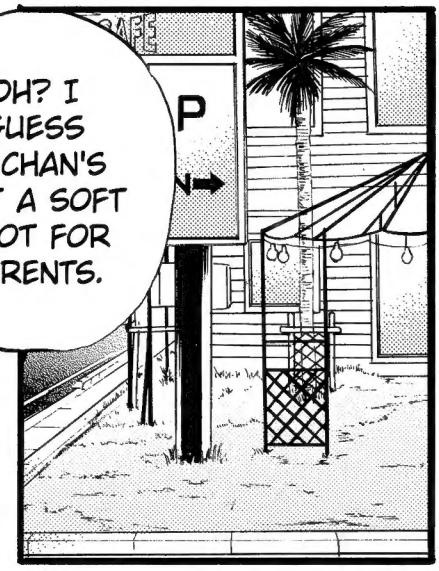
HUUUH?!
MOM... I'M AN ADULT, NOT A GRADE SCHOOLER STAYING OVER AT A FRIEND'S HOUSE! THAT'S A WEIRD THING TO DO!
I WANNA SAY HI TO HER!

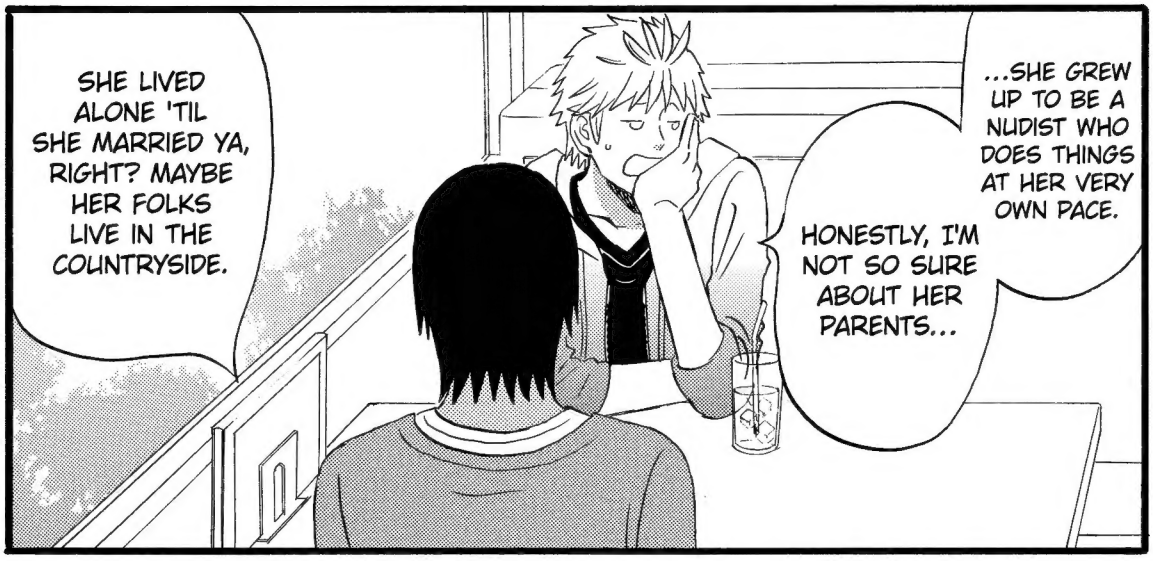
RATHER, IT'S A LOT WEIRDER IF I DON'T SAY HI TO THE PERSON WHO'S TAKING CARE OF MY DUMBASS SON!
Gaah!
THERE'S NOTHING WEIRD ABOUT IT!!

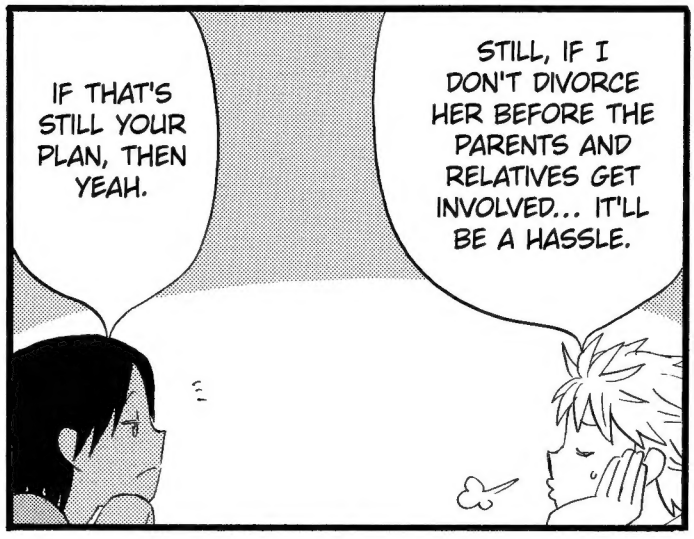

HUUUH...
THERE ARE THINGS CLOSE TO THE EXPIRATION DATE, SO HURRY UP!
Mom
BUT OH WELL... I GUESS I CAN LEAVE THE GREETINGS FOR LATER. JUST GIVE ME YOUR NEW ADDRESS, SO I CAN RESEND THE RETURNED STUFF!

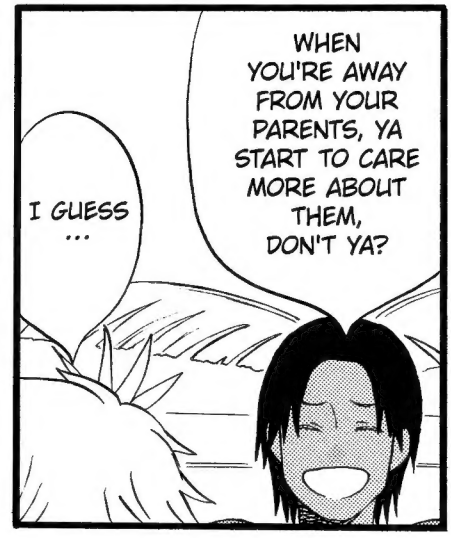

I SUPPOSE THAT'S RIGHT, BUT...
IT'S NATURAL FOR PARENTS TO WORRY ABOUT AND TAKE CARE OF THEIR KIDS. ACCEPT HER HELP.
WHY DON'T YOU TELL HER THE ADDRESS? IT'S NOT LIKE SHE'LL COME TO DELIVER IT IN PERSON.

SHE MUSTA BEEN RAISED WITH LOVE, DON'T YA THINK?
HMM ...


OH? I GUESS AI-CHAN'S GOT A SOFT SPOT FOR PARENTS.
P


SHE LIVED ALONE 'TIL SHE MARRIED YA, RIGHT? MAYBE HER FOLKS LIVE IN THE COUNTRYSIDE.
HONESTLY, I'M NOT SO SURE ABOUT HER PARENTS...
...SHE GREW UP TO BE A NUDIST WHO DOES THINGS AT HER VERY OWN PACE.


IF THAT'S STILL YOUR PLAN, THEN YEAH.
STILL, IF I DON'T DIVORCE HER BEFORE THE PARENTS AND RELATIVES GET INVOLVED... IT'LL BE A HASSLE.


I GUESS ...
WHEN YOU'RE AWAY FROM YOUR PARENTS, YA START TO CARE MORE ABOUT THEM, DON'T YA?

YA COCKBLOCKED YOURSELF WITH THAT ONE...
I TOLD HER THAT SHE NEEDS TO SAVE HER FIRST TIME FOR SOMEONE SHE LOVES, SO...
...
JUST GIVE UP, DUDE.
So...?
HAVE YA DONE IT YET?
I MEAN, YOUR PLAN IS TO SHAG HER ONCE, THEN GET THE DIVORCE, AIN'T IT?
Hm?
...
...
MAYBE I SHOULD ...
I HONESTLY DON'T THINK A WOMAN LIKE HER, WHO LIVES IN HER OWN LITTLE WORLD, WILL EVER LIKE ME...
STEP
STEP
I NEED TO FIND A JOB SOON AND ASK FOR A DIVORCE...
RIGHT... THAT'S WHAT I SHOULD DO.

SHIRO-KUUUN! IT'S MOM! I WAS IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD, SO I CAME TO SEE YOU!
ポ
I NEED TO DO IT BEFORE MY PARENTS FIND OUT ABOUT OUR MARRIAGE...

?

...

WHAT AM I GONNA DO ABOUT HER...?

I'M SORRY, BUT YOUR MOTHER NEEDS TO LEARN A THING OR TWO ABOUT MAKING PLANS.

I KNOW THAT! I MEAN, SHE IS MY MOTHER!

BUT PLEASE FORGIVE HER. SHE DOESN'T MEAN ANY HARM!

YOUR MOTHER'S HERE?!

I PROMISE YOU THIS WILL BE QUICK, SO CAN YOU PUT ON SOME CLOTHES?

WHAAAT...?

IF WE JUST SAY HELLO TO HER, I THINK SHE'LL BE SATISFIED AND LEAVE RIGHT AWAY!

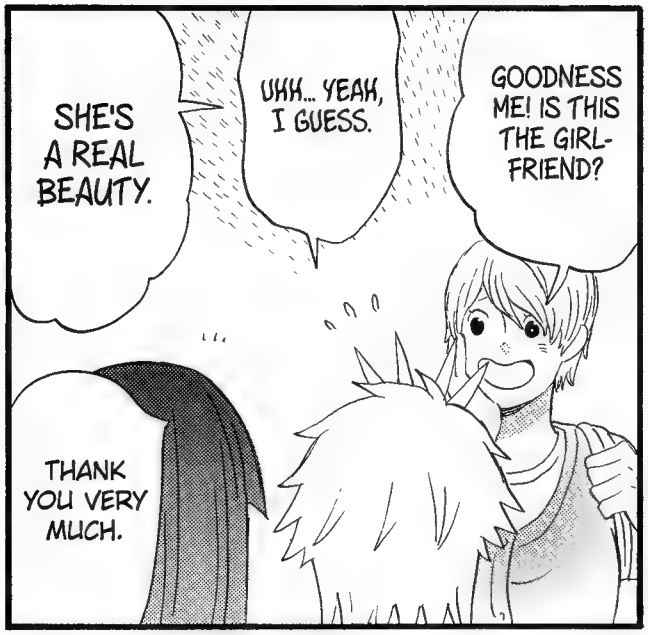
WHAT A PAAAAIN...

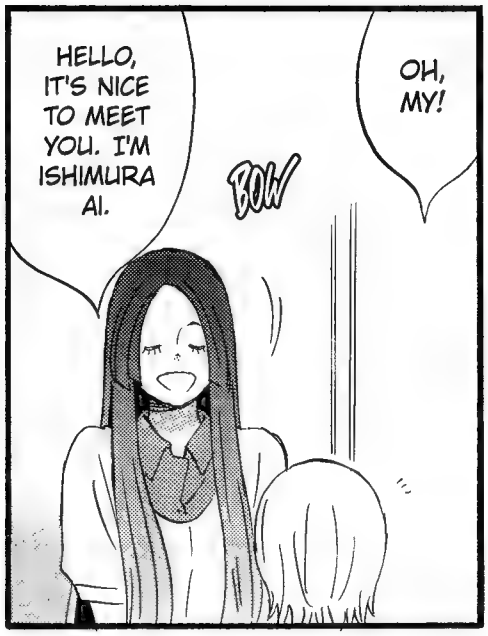
HURRY UP, PLEASE!

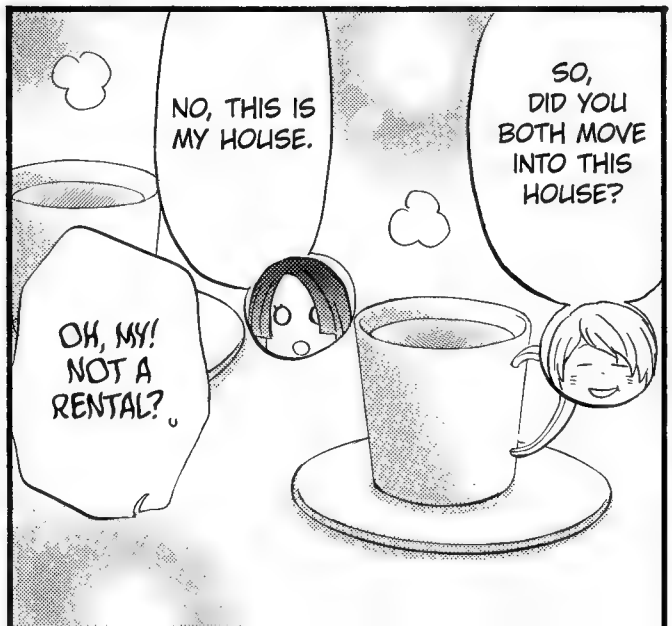
WELCOME!

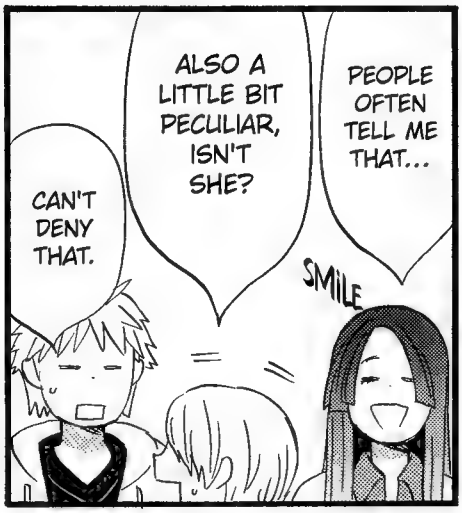
GEEZ... IF YOU'RE COMING TO VISIT, AT LEAST CALL ME FIRST!

I SHOULD'VE PRETENDED NOT TO BE HOME...
TCH!
I WOULD'VE LEFT RIGHT AWAY IF YOU WEREN'T HOME.
I'M ONLY HERE BECAUSE I HAD SOME BUSINESS NEARBY.
I DIDN'T KNOW I WAS STOPPING BY EITHER, I SWEAR...
SHUT


SHE'S A REAL BEAUTY.
UHH... YEAH, I GUESS.
GOODNESS ME! IS THIS THE GIRL-FRIEND?
THANK YOU VERY MUCH.

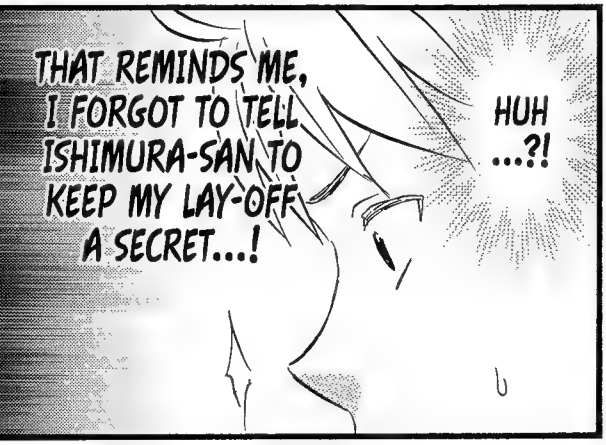

HELLO, IT'S NICE TO MEET YOU. I'M ISHIMURA AI.
OH, MY!
BOW

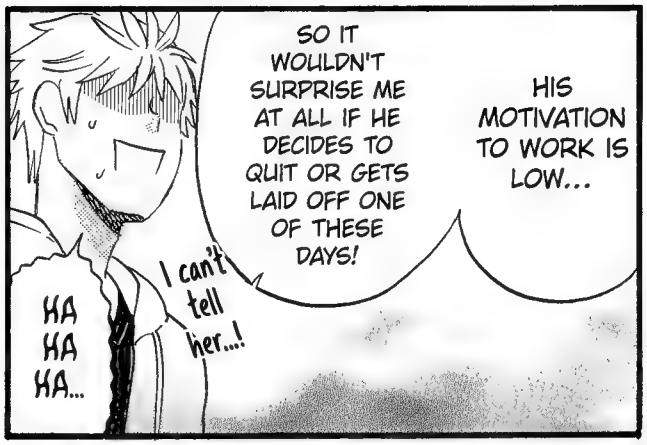

NO, THIS IS MY HOUSE.
SO, DID YOU BOTH MOVE INTO THIS HOUSE?
OH, MY! NOT A RENTAL?

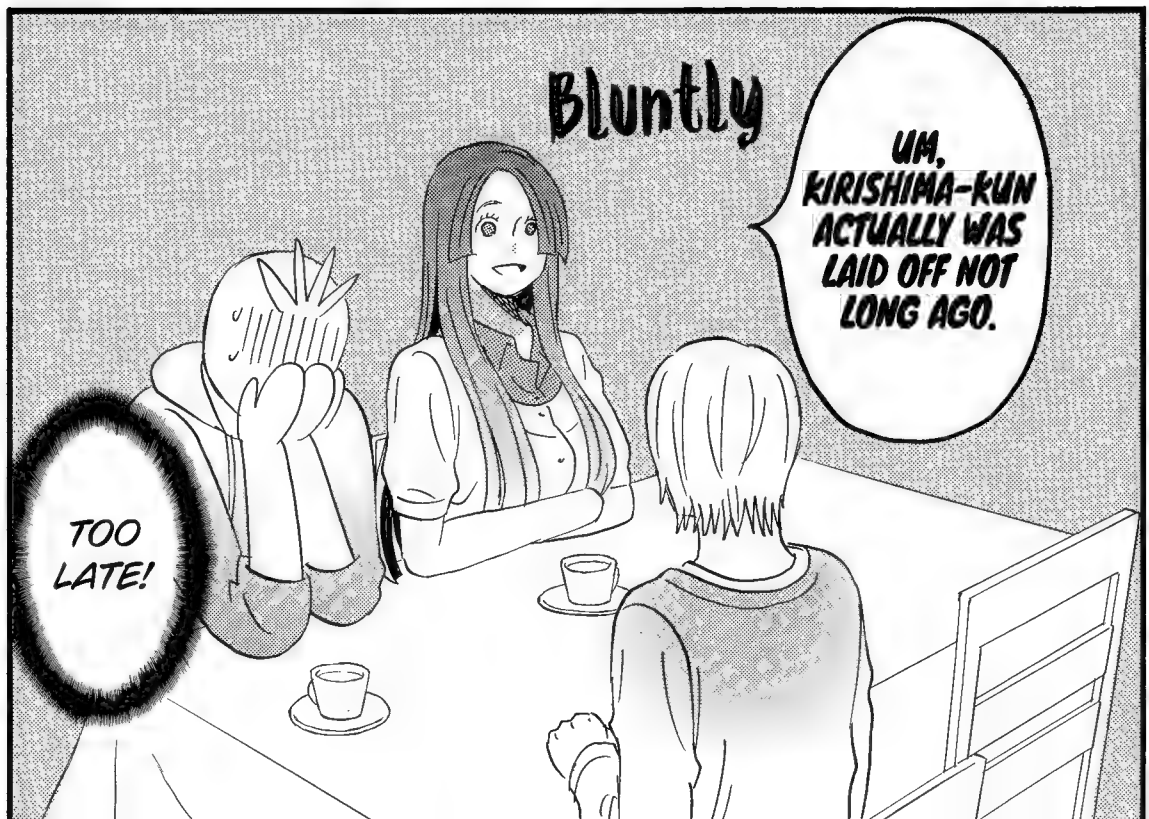

CAN'T DENY THAT.
ALSO A LITTLE BIT PECULIAR, ISN'T SHE?
PEOPLE OFTEN TELL ME THAT...
SMILE

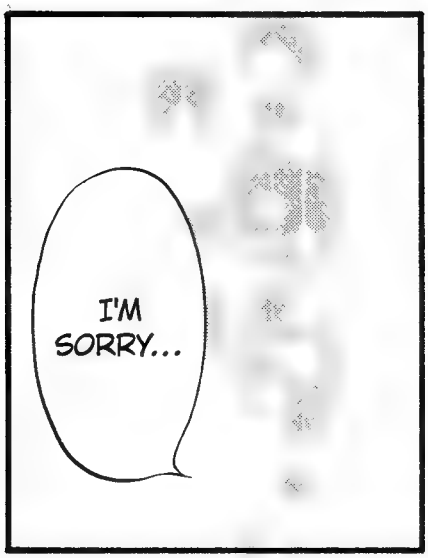
HE'S NOT EXACTLY A GREAT PROSPECT, IS HE?
I'M SORRY. MY SON'S A GOOD BOY AND HAS ALWAYS BEEN VERY SOCIABLE, BUT...

HEY, ARE YOU CHIPPING IN SOME MONEY?
RATHER THAN CHIPPING IN, I'M BEING GIVEN MONEY INSTEAD...

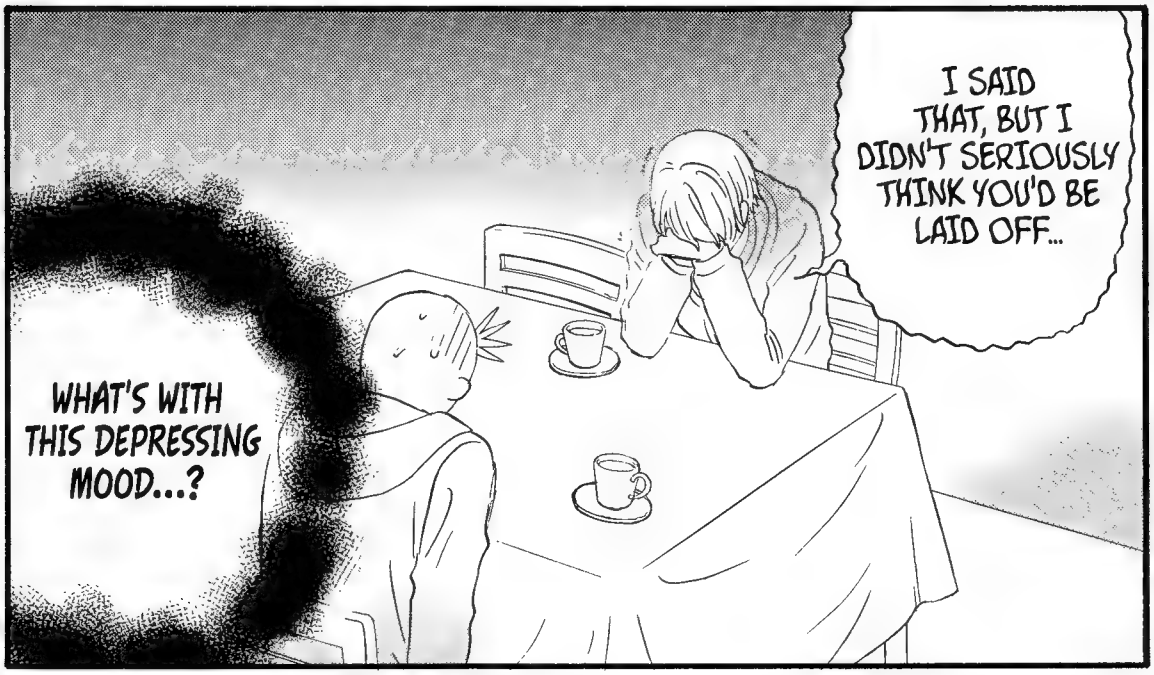

HUH ...?!
THAT REMINDS ME, I FORGOT TO TELL ISHIMURA-SAN TO KEEP MY LAY-OFF A SECRET...!


HIS MOTIVATION TO WORK IS LOW...
SO IT WOULDN'T SURPRISE ME AT ALL IF HE DECIDES TO QUIT OR GETS LAID OFF ONE OF THESE DAYS!
I can't tell her...!
HA HA HA...


Bluntly
UM, KIRISHIMA-KUN ACTUALLY WAS LAID OFF NOT LONG AGO.
TOO LATE!


I'M SORRY...

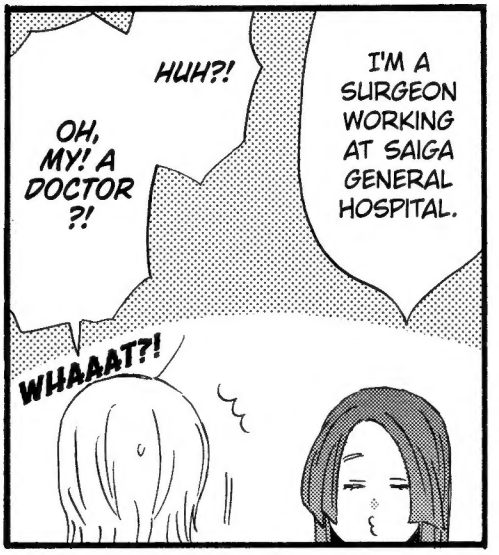
...
REALLY?
Well...
YES...


I SAID THAT, BUT I DIDN'T SERIOUSLY THINK YOU'D BE LAID OFF...
WHAT'S WITH THIS DEPRESSING MOOD...?

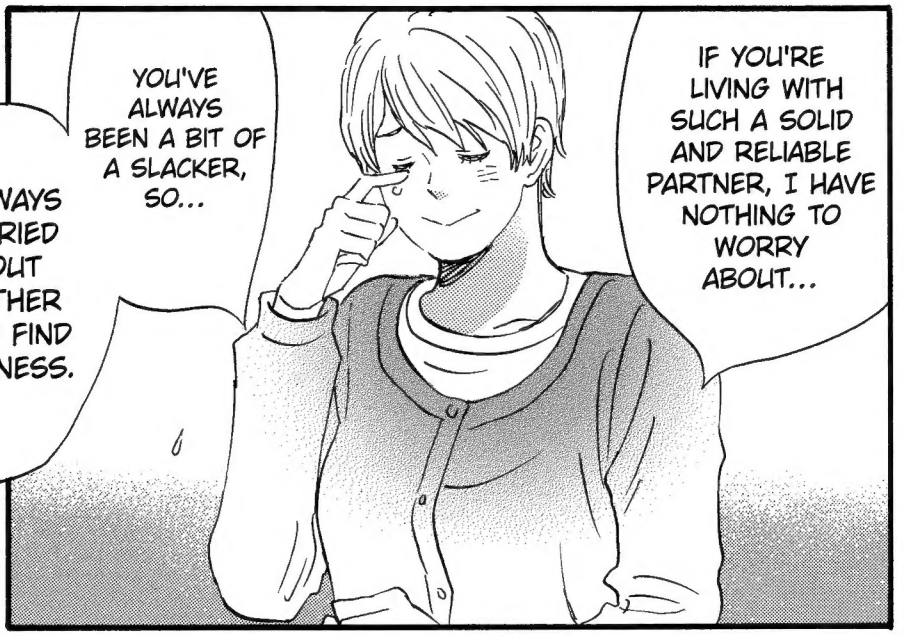
BY THE WAY, WHAT DO YOU DO FOR A LIVING, ISHIMURA-SAN?

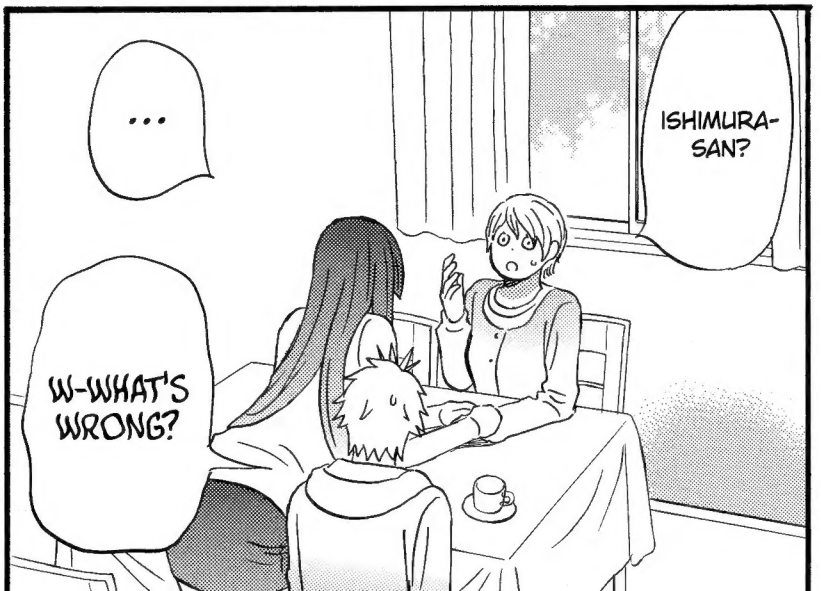
NO NEED. I CAN GET A NEW JOB BY MYSELF!
DO YOU WANT ME TO ASK YOUR FATHER OR UNCLE IF THEY KNOW ANY COMPANY WILLING TO TAKE YOU IN?
SO YOU'RE LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB, RIGHT, SHIRO-KUN?

I'M DEAD SET ON DIVORCING HER, THOUGH...
HA HA HA...
SO BEAUTIFUL, AND A DOCTOR AS WELL! NOT BAD, SHIRO-KUN!
HEE HEE TEE HEE!


I'M A SURGEON WORKING AT SAIGA GENERAL HOSPITAL.
HUH?!
OH, MY! A DOCTOR ?!
WHAAAT?!

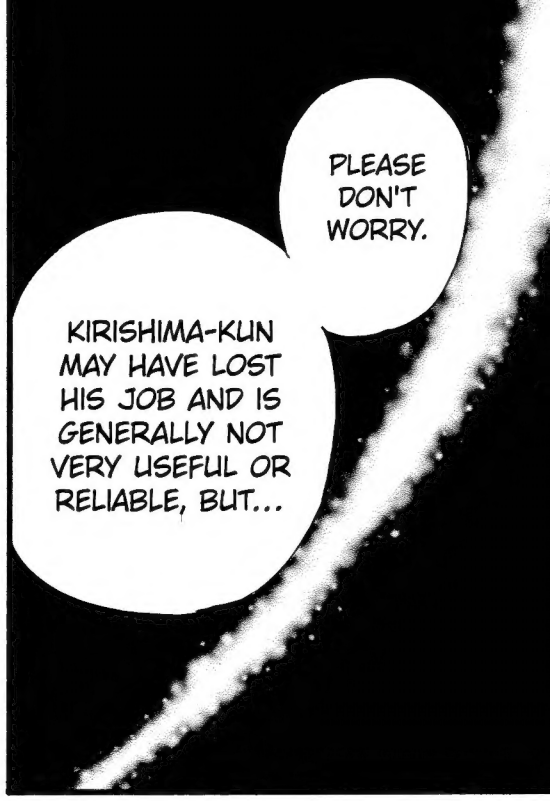
AND I MEAN... YOU WERE LAID-OFF...
I ALWAYS WORRIED ABOUT WHETHER YOU'D FIND HAPPINESS.


YOU'VE ALWAYS BEEN A BIT OF A SLACKER, SO...
IF YOU'RE LIVING WITH SUCH A SOLID AND RELIABLE PARTNER, I HAVE NOTHING TO WORRY ABOUT...

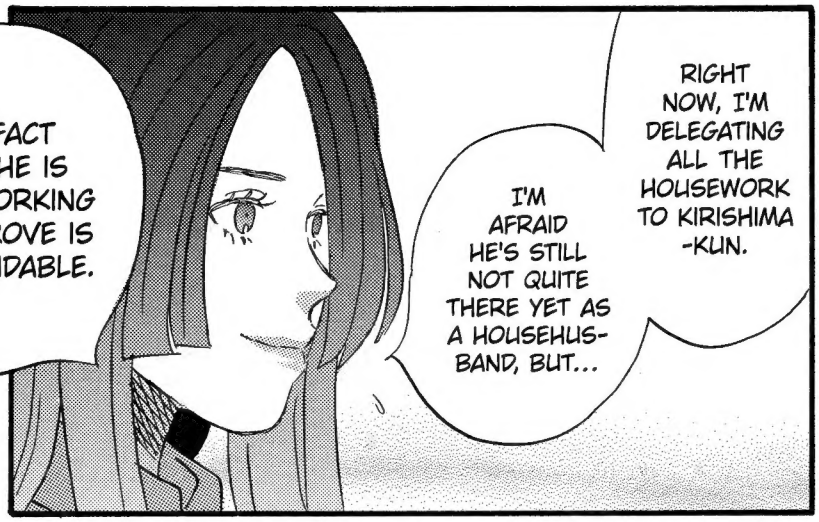

...
ISHIMURA-SAN?
W-WHAT'S WRONG?

SPLAT

ISHIMURA-SAN, IF THAT'S YOUR ATTEMPT AT TRYING TO HELP ME OUT, I'M NOT SURE IF IT WORKED!
AFTER WE STARTED LIVING TOGETHER, I REALIZED THAT MAYBE HE'S NOT SO WORTHLESS AFTER ALL!
GLINT


PLEASE DON'T WORRY.
KIRISHIMA-KUN MAY HAVE LOST HIS JOB AND IS GENERALLY NOT VERY USEFUL OR RELIABLE, BUT...

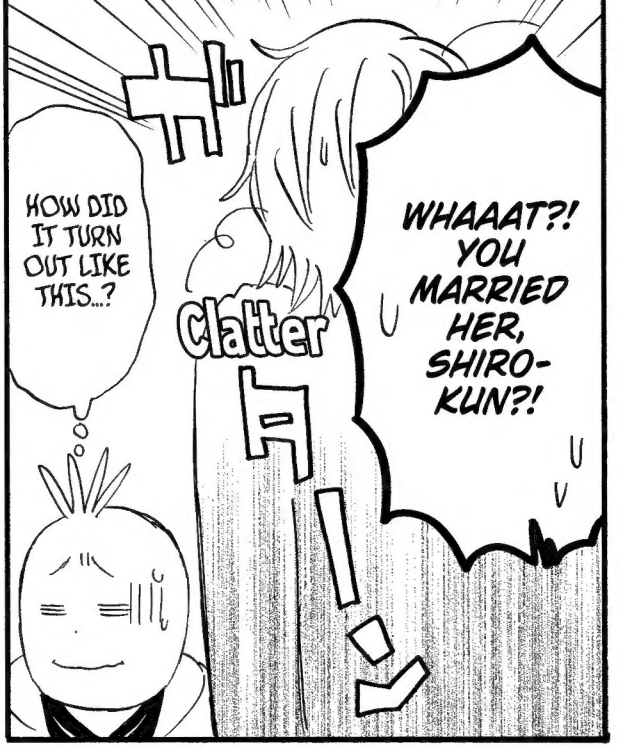
...


THE FACT THAT HE IS STILL WORKING TO IMPROVE IS COMMENDABLE.
I'M AFRAID HE'S STILL NOT QUITE THERE YET AS A HOUSEHUSBAND, BUT...
RIGHT NOW, I'M DELEGATING ALL THE HOUSEWORK TO KIRISHIMA-KUN.

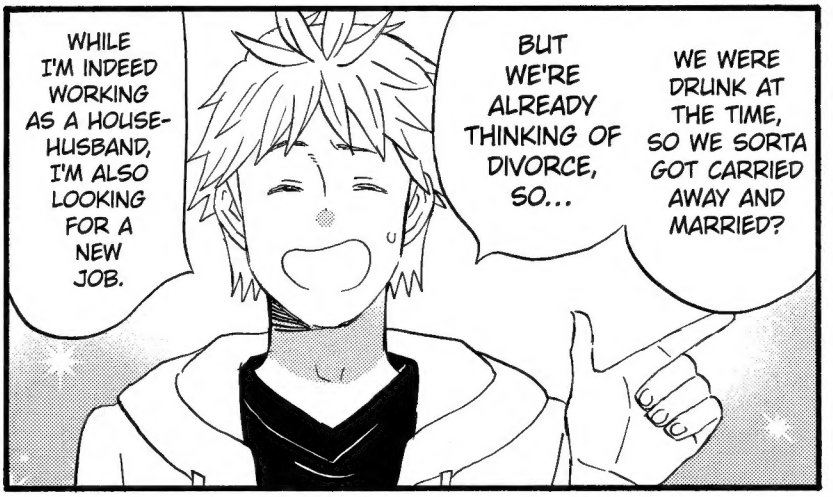
MY ATTEMPT TO DIVORCE BEFORE MY PARENTS FOUND OUT ABOUT THE MARRIAGE IS NOW OFFICIALLY RUINED...
AHHH...

UHH, WELL...
"HOUSEHUSBAND"?
You...?

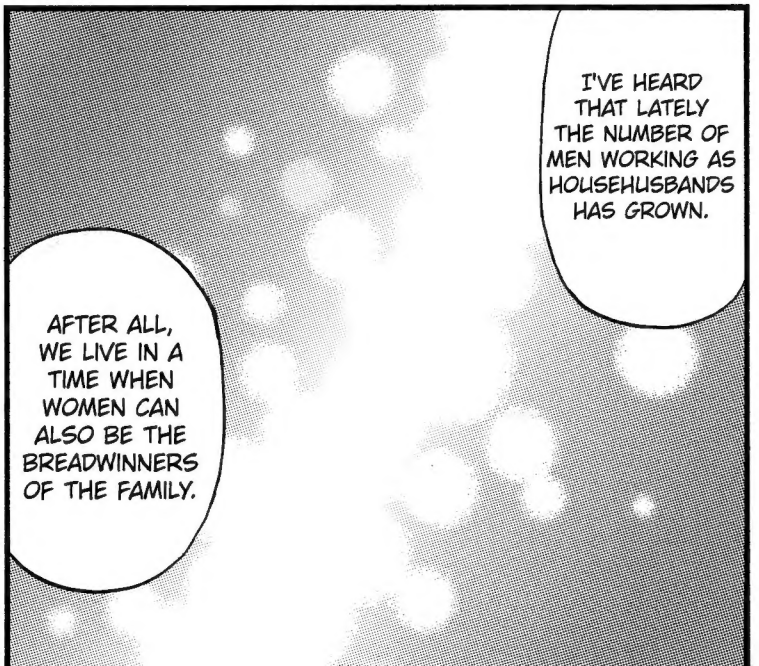
WHY DID YOU KEEP IT A SECRET FROM US?!
UM, I CAN EXPLAIN...
CAN I...?


WHAAAT?! YOU MARRIED HER, SHIRO-KUN?!
Clatter
HOW DID IT TURN OUT LIKE THIS...?

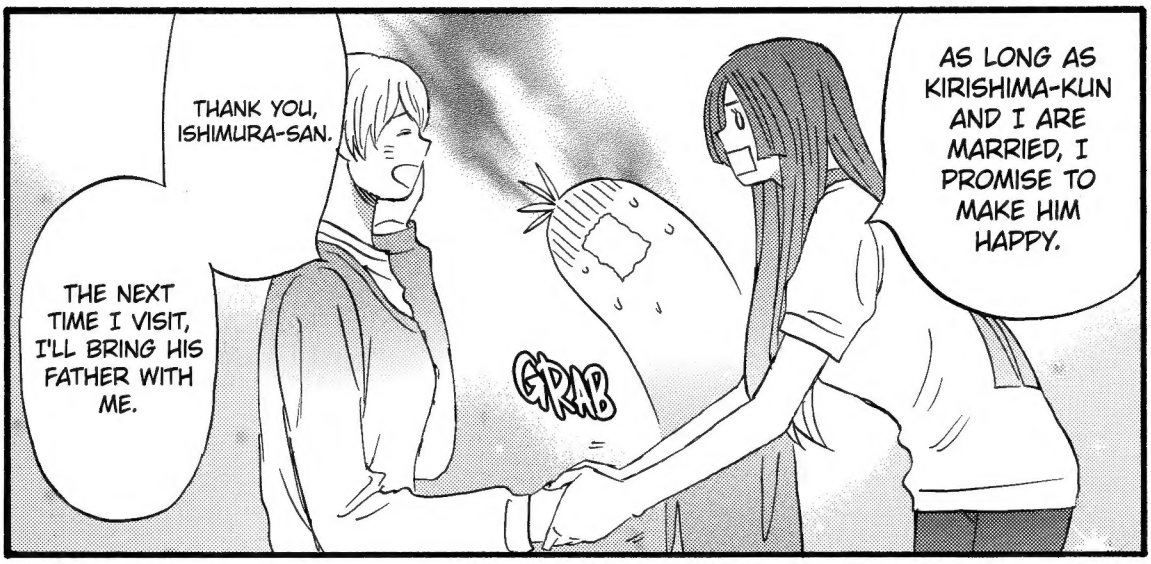
WHAT ARE YOU SAYING, SHIRO-KUN?!
JOLT

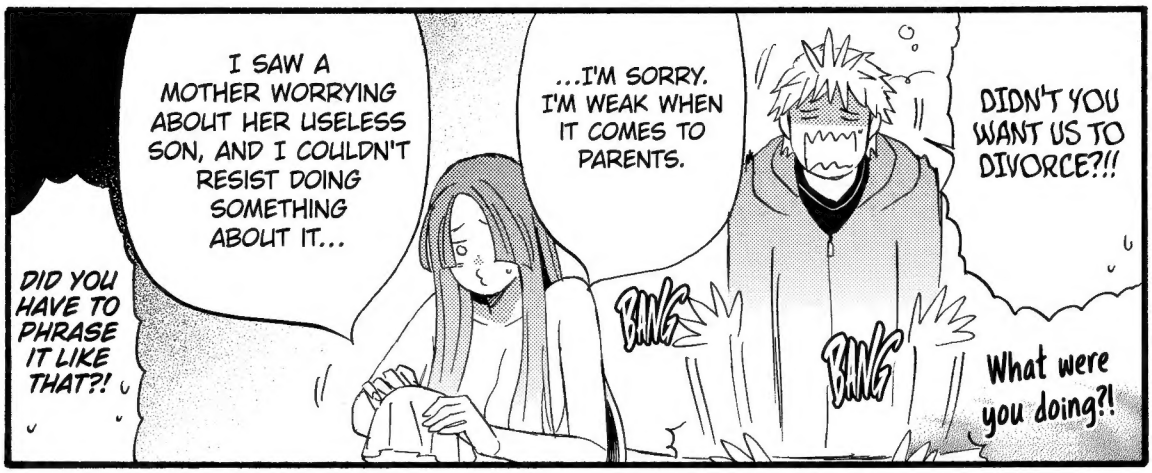

WHILE I'M INDEED WORKING AS A HOUSE-HUSBAND, I'M ALSO LOOKING FOR A NEW JOB.
BUT WE'RE ALREADY THINKING OF DIVORCE, SO...
WE WERE DRUNK AT THE TIME, SO WE SORTA GOT CARRIED AWAY AND MARRIED?

GRAH
YOU CAN'T LET A GIRL WITH SUCH A GOOD HEAD ON HER SHOULDERS GET AWAY!
KUUUH ?!


I'VE HEARD THAT LATELY THE NUMBER OF MEN WORKING AS HOUSEHUSBANDS HAS GROWN.
AFTER ALL, WE LIVE IN A TIME WHEN WOMEN CAN ALSO BE THE BREADWINNERS OF THE FAMILY.

...
THEN I WON'T SAY ANYTHING AT ALL.
IF YOU'RE HAPPY LIKE THIS, SHIRO-KUN...


THANK YOU, ISHIMURA-SAN.
THE NEXT TIME I VISIT, I'LL BRING HIS FATHER WITH ME.
AS LONG AS KIRISHIMA-KUN AND I ARE MARRIED, I PROMISE TO MAKE HIM HAPPY.
GRAB


I SAW A MOTHER WORRYING ABOUT HER USELESS SON, AND I COULDN'T RESIST DOING SOMETHING ABOUT IT...
DID YOU HAVE TO PHRASE IT LIKE THAT?!
...I'M SORRY. I'M WEAK WHEN IT COMES TO PARENTS.
DIDN'T YOU WANT US TO DIVORCE?!!
BANG
BANG
What were you doing?!